

In The Office of The Minister of Health

In the matter: Pharmac Request--Medication

Between: Kyle James Craig
of Invercargill

Autism, Aspergers sufferer/Applicant

AND

The Ministry of Health
Pharmac
General Practitioners

Formal Application, Request to The
Ministry of Health and Pharmac to
Commission General Practitioners to
Prescribe, administer Adderall in NZ
to High Functioning Autism, Aspergers
Sufferers (who qualify) (request is for Subsidised/Non Subsidized)

dated: 25 September 2024

Kyle James Craig
of Invercargill

In prompt of Application, Review and Recommendation

1. I, Kyle James Craig of Invercargill write in formal application to The Governmental Health and Medication regulation bodies in request for Adderall to be made available in New Zealand to G.P's to prescribe to High Functioning Autism/Aspergers syndrome diagnosed patients for the control of and decrease of problematic high energy hypersensitivity lack of focus and overstimulation.
2. I Wake up and with an instant free energy I 'go too fast' and throughout the day, alongside sensory distraction and an already social deficit my conversation/navigation with others can end up fast or all over the place, or my lack of focus and concentration can effect daily life.
3. I dont take medication, I have appropriately trialed medication for these problematic symptoms in the past but I found Seroquel and Risperdal detrimental, tranquilizing and dangerous in way of potential side-effects, however they are the only all too common go to for G.P's - alongside my 23rd September 2024 offer of Abilify.
4. I dont seek medications because of my apprehension of the risks and side-effects vs its necessity of use and requirement vs what behavioural or thinking interventions should be trialed first, but the years of ever building impacts of my Autism/Aspergers trait of ADHD type systematic symptoms and its impact on others is ever present and effects daily living an navigation in Prison
5. Today the 26th of September 2024 I was, in a second opinion via AVL to a G.P declined Adderall due to non availability.
6. I hate Autism, mostly because in 2022 it was used Against me in The Family Court by my daughters mother and in 2023 I sought but was told the criterion for an undiagnosis does not exist.

7. Since coming into Prison in August 2014 I have, this September, been afforded a large collection of helpful articles to read which have helped me 'organize' my view of this retched condition.

7a, I'm willing to trial Adderall

but first this needs to be available in New Zealand so I here formally wish to begin the process in making this so.

8. I imply and submit that the commission of a comprehensive analysis of the use of Adderall in mild Autism, High Functioning Autism and verbal ASpergers Syndrome Sufferers will meet the New Zealand standard and I seek

8a, the initiation, and a copy of this

9. Adderall as opposed to other Atypical medications for an un-seemingly non-medicational disability/giftedness is essentially riskless. Adderall as you will find, in my support, is shown and accepted (globally) to improve individuals like me and the effects are immediate, with far less side-effects in contrast to other Atypical medications which require several weeks to evaluate.

9a, I don't have heart problems, or speech delay.

10. I make this application for both subsidised and non subsidised consideration, review, recommendation and implementation

11. Alongside Ritalin I, Kyle James Craig of Invercargill propose to make Adderall a prescribable alternate option in New Zealand

Signed and dated at: Invercargill

K. Craig



26/9

4 November 2024

Kyle Craig

Po Box 641
Invercargill 9840

Ref: H2024053420

Tēnā koe Kyle

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) received by post on 7 October 2024 for information regarding Adderall. You requested:

Copy and/or outline of

- a. Medsafe current standing on Adderall*
- b. Any prior or anticipated evaluations held on Adderall*
- c. A copy of any info, articles, research, data, analysis and recommendations held by Medsafe about Adderall, in particular to Autism*
- d. A response, insight, analysis or overview of my proposal (request to MOH and Pharmac to commission GP to prescribe, administer Adderall on NZ to high functioning autism, Aspergers sufferers*

Adderall is not currently approved in New Zealand, and neither is any generic medicine containing the active ingredients in Adderall, amphetamine and dextroamphetamine.

Medsafe also has not received a New Medicine Application from any company wanting to obtain the Minister of Health's consent to supply Adderall or a generic form of Adderall in New Zealand. As such the information requested is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

Regarding point D of your request, thank you for your proposal and the Ministry acknowledges your concerns on this matter. However, while the Act enables people to request official information from the Ministry, it only applies to information it holds. There is no obligation to create information in order to respond to requests, nor is the Ministry obliged to provide an opinion.

We acknowledge you have also addressed Pharmac in your letter. We have passed on your request to prescribe and administer Adderall in New Zealand to their agency to consider.

Pharmac can be contacted at: Pharmac PO Box 10254, The Terrace Wellington 6143. Street address: Level 9 Simpl House 40 Mercer Street Wellington Central, or by email at enquiry@pharmac.govt.nz.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā



Chris James
Group Manager
Medsafe

Kia Ora Kyle,

Thanks for your letter. I am sorry to hear that you haven't been able to get effective treatment in prison for your ASD symptoms.

You are right that Adderall is not a registered medicine in New Zealand. However, dexamphetamine/dexamfetamine- a medicine very similar to Adderall (amphetamine salts) is funded and accessible in New Zealand and offers another option to methylphenidate for people who do not find this medicine effective. You may also be interested to know that lisdexamphetamine (Vyvanse) is in the process of community consultation for funding at the moment. This is another medicine that is long-acting and has proven effective for treating the symptoms of ADHD in people who do not find methylphenidate effective. I believe the approval/funding of Vyvanse is the current priority for PHARMAC funding for ADHD medicines at present.

However, these medicines are all treatments for ADHD. The treatment of autism/ASD with stimulant medicines is still very much up for debate. Because of the comorbidity of ASD and ADHD, sometimes people with ASD are prescribed stimulants to help manage their ADHD symptoms. If you feel like you are experiencing ADHD symptoms, I recommend talking with the prison medical staff about seeking a diagnosis from a psychiatrist. I should say that obtaining a diagnosis and treatment in prison is likely to be difficult. However, it may still be worth investigating this as you may choose to pursue a diagnosis once you have been released or are on parole. There has been progress made on screening for neurodivergence in prison populations elsewhere in the world, which is a really positive thing to see. For instance, in Queensland, Australia they are taking significant steps to increase the screening for and treatment of ADHD in prison populations.

In New Zealand, these stimulant treatments are not indicated for the treatment of other conditions, other than ADHD (and in some cases, narcolepsy). We believe getting prescribed these medicines for ASD is less likely, as their efficacy has not been proven in the treatment of ASD. It is also worth noting that these stimulant medicines cannot be prescribed by a GP at present. For adults, they can only be prescribed by special authority from a psychiatrist, which will be the reason why your recent GP was not able to prescribe this to you. There are other medicines that may be helpful for the treatment of ASD symptoms this includes aripiprazole, citalopram and melatonin. Other medicines such as naltrexone, clonidine and SSRIs (and other antidepressants). Sometimes finding a medicine that works best for managing ASD takes a bit of trial and error, particularly if you have co-occurring physical or mental illnesses.



As mentioned above, I would suggest talking with the prison medical staff about seeking an ADHD diagnosis, if you feel might be possible in your facility. If you are able to be diagnosed by a psychiatrist, they are able to prescribe you stimulant medicines with special authority. I understand that might not currently be widely available in prisons, which we hope will change in future.

If you are looking to make a consumer application for the funding/scheduling of any drug, there is the option to do so on the PHARMAC website (<https://pharmac.govt.nz/medicine-funding-and-supply/make-an-application/pharmconnect-make-a-medicine-funding-application>). You would have to submit as a consumer (rather than a pharmaceutical company) which can make the process tricky as there is not necessarily a product available that is interested in providing this medicine to New Zealand. PHARMAC are the best people to ask about making a specific consumer application.

Thanks for taking the time to write to us and for your interest in this issue. All the best in the future,

Emily – New Zealand Drug Foundation



Hon David Seymour

MP for Epsom

Deputy Prime Minister (from 31 May 2025)

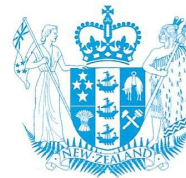
Minister for Regulation

Associate Minister of Education (Partnership Schools)

Associate Minister of Finance

Associate Minister of Health (Pharmac)

Associate Minister of Justice (Treaty Principles Bill)



02 DEC 2024

Kyle James Craig

Po Box 641

Invercargill

Dear Kyle

Thank you for your correspondence received 4 October 2024 regarding the availability of Adderall to treat people with ADHD in New Zealand. I appreciate you taking the time to write.

I understand that Pharmac has received a copy of your letter and will respond to you directly in due course.

Thank you for writing, and I wish you well.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Seymour'.

Hon David Seymour

Associate Minister of Health